

**The Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
General Meeting
Minutes of May 19, 2009 Meeting**

1. Call to Order by -

The meeting was called to order by *TuLynn Smylie*, 2nd First Chair at 12:06 p.m.

2. Minutes of the April 21, 2009 Meeting -

Minutes of the April 21, 2009 were approved with two corrections.

2. Public Comments/Announcements –

- *TuLynn Smylie*; letter will be sent from agencies, service providers to oppose government funding/reductions of shelters and svc. Providers as a result of propositions not approved by voters.
- YWCA of Glendale has beds available at their facility at this time call 818-242-4155 x230 (*Gabriela Martinez*)
- Damian Leone from Community & Senior Services said goodbye to the DVC on behalf of his department due to the transition from CSS assignments to DPSS reassignments

4. Approval of Domestic Violence Council Mission Statement Changes – All

Not enough voting members present to vote on the DVC Mission Statement changes

5. Executive Board Report – *TuLynn Smylie, Co-chair*; Met last week and approved the DV handbook changes/upgrade. Mary Case took on task to gather everyone's changes to make it as inclusive as possible.

Discussed meeting with men's groups and shelter directors to develop a task force and a mission statement for the underserved population. Carol Crabson, Judy Gordon and *TuLynn Smylie* will lead this group.

Expectations of the DVC should be at forefront at all levels of any DV discussion regarding funding, issues/concerns, research, etc.

6. LACDVC – *Olivia G. Rodriguez, Executive Director*

The DVC collaborated with the Los Angeles Commission for Women in hosting a Breakfast Briefing with the Board of Supervisors Deputies on April 23; most agencies attended and was a productive exchange of information that led to the coordination of the transition meeting for shelters and agencies from CSS to DPSS.

The DVC is collaborating with the Department of Social Services to have a meeting for shelters & agencies that are affected by the transference of responsibilities from CSS to DPS; the meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2009.

The DVC was recognized by the District Attorney's office along with other organizations on April 28, and received a Board of Supervisors commendation presented by District Attorney Steve Cooley.

The DVC participated in a meeting with the department of Community and Senior Service (CSS), shelter executive directors and the Men's Legal Center, Family Law Advocates on April 30. The meeting with CSS, Attorney Marc E. Angelucci, and shelter directors was to discuss the Woods v. Shewry Case compliance.

7. **Committee Reports-**

Shelter Directors – Carol Crabson, Co-chair; Deputies and Shelters Meeting was great because shelter directors were heard regarding funding and the upcoming mtg. of Shelters, CSS (*assignment transfer*) to DPSS.

- DVC received commendation at the District Attorney's Victim Witness Protection's Ceremony on April 28th.
- Meeting was held on April 30th with men's groups focused on service opportunities for all DV survivors and shelter/housing for male victims.
- Government budget cuts for shelters and service providers and how will it impact them.
- Legislators will be contacted by mail to stop funding cuts that may result in a possible loss of \$20.4 million.
- Planning Annual Shelter Directors Retreat to discuss and plan on having a concert "Band Aid" fundraiser.

Legislative Issues – Kimberly Wong, Co-chair; Open exchange of ideas regarding many bills that are discussed and agreed or disagreed. Denise Labertew will be working on template letters to send out to the DVC so if members agree to make changes, can send out letter with their org. letterhead to impact decisions from lawmakers.

- AB1003-template letter will be made up as soon by Denise changes are made
- AB1081 (electronic monitoring) which is opposed by some groups in California and may be impossible to pass.
- SB50 requires for Victims of Crime money to pay for medical procedures for sexual assault victims.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 4th, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Committee on Systems Improvement – Gail Pincus, Co-chair; Discussed the D.A. having a conference on November 4th, topics were undisclosed at this time.

- Meeting scheduled with presiding judge from the Family Court to discuss possible training in the Fall or in Spring on private family law custody.
- Request for survey to implement firearm check off box on restraining order paperwork to show judge/court that perpetrator has disposed of firearm/s.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 9th, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Religion and Domestic Violence – Bernita Walker, Co-chair; Religion & DV Committee members attended a training held by MAS (marriage abuse services) that has contract with state of California to train religious leaders in domestic violence.

LGBT Issues – No representative was present at the General Meeting.

Immigration Task Force – No representative was present at the General Meeting.

Speaker/s:

Emily Austin, (Peace Over Violence, Co-Chair PPRC CPEDV)-Overview of the Legislative Process

Paul Freese & Elizabeth Bluestein, (Public Counsel)-Non-Profit Lobbying and Legislative Advocacy

Victoria Evers, (Los Angeles County, Chief Executive Office, Intergovernmental affairs)-Legislative Analysts Office)-County Legislative Practices: County Process

Richard Ryan, (Assembly Member John A. Perez' Office)-Accessing Legislative Representatives - An Insiders View

8. **Adjournment** - Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.